

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the abstract and replace it with the following replacement abstract, with markings to show all changes from the previous version of the abstract:

A method and apparatus (~~10~~) for encoding an input digital signal for lossless transmission comprising first calculation means (~~12~~) for calculating a checksum of the input digital signal. The apparatus further comprises encoding means (~~11~~) for lossless encoding into an encoded packet of digital data, and composition means (~~13~~) for adding the associated checksum to the encoded packet to form an encoded signal. Associated are a method and apparatus (~~20~~) for decoding the encoded signal, comprising extracting means (~~21~~) for receiving the encoded signal and extracting the encoded packet and associated checksum, decoding means (~~22~~) for decoding the encoded packet into a decoded packet comprising the input digital signal, second calculation means (~~23~~) for calculating a checksum for the decoded packet, and output means (~~24, 25~~) for outputting the decoded packet as an output signal if the calculated checksum corresponds with the extracted checksum.

{Fig. 1}